

REMARKS

The Examiner's attention to the present application is noted with appreciation.

In section 3 of the Office Action of September 8, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 12, and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Gadgil et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,780,860).

In section 4, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 7, 10, and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Teller et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,021,347).

In section 5, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 10, and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Jackson (U.S. Patent Appl. No. 2004/0094470).

In section 7, the Examiner rejected claims 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gadgil et al., Teller et al., or Jackson.

In section 8, the Examiner allowed claim 18.

In section 9, the Examiner stated that claims 4-6, 9, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The limitations of claim 4 have been incorporated into amended claim 1, and claim 4 has been cancelled.

Claim 9 has been rewritten (to incorporate the limitations of claim 1) as new independent claim 19. New dependent claims 20-30 comprise the limitations of original claims 2-8 and 10-13, therefore, they are allowable as being dependent on claim 19 (which recites the limitations of original claims 1 and 9).

The limitations of claim 17 have been incorporated into amended claim 14, and claim 17 has been cancelled.

Claim 18 has been amended only to correct a typographical error by deleting the word "of" in the first line.

Therefore, it is believed that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner believes that prosecution of this application might be expedited by discussion of the issues, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number listed below.

A check for additional claim fees is attached. Authorization is given to charge payment of any additional fees required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Acct. 13-4213.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/8/05

By:



Vidal A. Oaxaca, Reg. No. 44,267
Direct line: (505) 998-1501

PEACOCK MYERS, P.C.
Attorneys for Applicant(s)
P.O. Box 26927
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-6927

Telephone: (505) 998-1500
Facsimile: (505) 243-2542

G:\AMDS\Savio\Skimmer and Filter_OA Resp_11-05.doc